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UNIVERSALISTS—John G. Keyser, Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield.

THE BLOOMFIELD RECORD.

Editor of the Post Office at Bloomfield, N. J., is the author of this column.
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No ADVERTISEMENTS or other matter for the ensuing issues can be received later than Friday night.

M. H. CLARK,
Editor and Publisher.

Bloomfield Record.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J., OCT. 28, 1882.

TWO TRAGEDIES.

Scarcely had the details of the shooting of Colonel SLATACK of St. Louis been published when word came of another and more serious tragedy at Knoxville, Tenn., in the first case there appears to have been justification for the act on the principle of self-defense, whose sacredness even the law respects. It is possible even in that instance that less violent means would have proved to have been an adequate protection; yet assuming the approach of armed men with the intent to work mischief, allowing what the party who shot the other claims, men will condone the taking of life.

But, in the other case legal means would have answered every needful purpose. When a man threatens the life of the other, as did General MABRY, threatening to shoot Major O'CONNOR at sight, the law provides for prosecution and furnishes safeguards. The turning of the tables and shooting the other man on sight was murder. The end was truly dreadful. Three lives were sacrificed in a few minutes. Major O'CONNOR shoots General MABRY, himself shot by the son of the latter, and the moment shoots the son, and all three die on the spot.

The prominence of all the parties and the wealth of Major O'CONNOR have called greater attention than would otherwise have been given to the tragedies. The lesson is plainly a failure to appreciate the value of life. In other times and in comparatively rude and semi-civilized communities occurrences like the above were a matter of course. But when and where civilization and Christianizing influences are at work a higher estimate is supposed to be placed upon life, and its taking is regarded with greater horror. This is what needs to be inculcated more carefully by all possible means in all places.

THE YELLOW FEVER.

The hopes cherished weeks ago of the speedy abatement of the yellow fever at the South have been disappointed. In despite of the utmost efforts the disease has continued to increase. Several thousand have been prostrated by it, and hundreds have died. We are subject to nothing at the North that compares with this scourge of the South except malaria which is essentially a mild form of the same disease, without the features of contagion and without the violent and fatal results.

It is largely connected with an excessively warm climate, yet is liable to spread into other regions; and against it a strict guard is maintained in our ports. Its presence and ravages are not wholly due to an inscrutable Providence, but are to be traced to defective drainage, the air being fed from ground saturated with corrupting matter and breeding the seeds of disease.

Memphis, so far afflicted a few years ago with the scourge, at last profited by its sufferings, and by means of sewerage and attention to other sanitary conditions has secured the promise of future exemption from the pestilence. A careful attention to these things would do much towards abating even malaria in places afflicted with this disease yet not commonly deadly complaint, which has spread widely, during the last few years, over parts of the land where heretofore it was unknown.

THE TRIAL OF ARABI PACHA.

The arrangements have been completed for the trial of ARABI Pacha. His request for English counsel has been reluctantly granted by the Egyptian authorities. For England not to have sanctioned and demanded it would have stained the British name with lasting dishonor. Having assumed to settle the disorders of that unhappy country, and having inflicted upon Egypt a loss of thousands of lives and millions of property, it was only just that he should allow Englishmen to serve, and insist upon their serving in the trial of the leaders of the Egyptian forces.

In all probability ARABI Pacha will be condemned on a part of the indictment prepared against him. But it can scarcely be possible that he will be executed by decree of the court. His destiny thus far, with scarcely an exceptional incident, has been

mainly and such as to enhance him to the kindly regard of the world. He attempted large things, and failed because of the weakness of his forces; but he has done nothing worthy of death. He acted in defense—as he believed—of his country, against a power which had no legal right to assault Egypt, and which was allowed to go forward in its armed invasion of this only on the principle that "might makes right."

If ARABI Pacha is to be condemned for defending Alexandria, what of Admiral SEXTON who assaulted it? If the one is to be punished for menacing the Suez Canal, what of those who contrary to protests of the Canal company invaded its rights for their own purposes? If the former is to be held responsible for massacres, what of General WOLESEY who could permit his soldiers to massacre the Egyptian wounded at Tel-el-Kebir? For the report of such conduct is confirmed by the fact of the large number killed at that place.

Two thousand killed and a handful wounded! Almost invariably the proportion of wounded to killed in battle is five to one; yet here the experience is reversed, and a few wounded are reported and two thousand Egyptians slaughtered. Does not Egyptian blood count as much as European blood? Shall Arabs slaughtered like cattle and the crime be overlooked; while, if a few Europeans are killed the act must be held to be a piece of criminality which must be atoned for with death?

Justice is an eternal principle, and takes no note of who are in the scales. If justice is done ARABI Pacha will be allowed to go free. More especially may this be said in view of the fact, so far as the evidence at hand reveals, he acted according to the will of his sovereign—the Sultan of Turkey.

STORM, FLOOD AND FROST SIGNALS BY TELEGRAPH AND CANNON.—A short time since a correspondent suggested the employment of cannon signals to supplement the telegraph in giving warning of storms, floods, etc., in regions sparsely settled. The suggestion was not a novel one, but the time seemed favorable for reiterating it. We have since learned that it came to us from a young engineer who has arranged to supplement the reports of threatening storms sent out by the signal bureau, by means of cannon signals to warn those at a distance from telegraph stations. The plan is likely to prove beneficial and worthy of wide extension.

In considering the value of a system of gun signals, it must be borne in mind that it proposes to fill a wide and important gap in the existing system of weather service.

In the last place, the severer and more destructive storms are apt to be of limited range; besides they are largely due to local conditions which make their prediction certainly from a distance quite impossible.

And when they are foreseen and pronounced, the information is sent to towns where the telegraphic stations are, while the people to be chiefly benefited are scattered throughout the adjacent country. What is needed is a means of reaching the people as a whole instantly and generally, at their homes and in their fields; which can be done most effectively by sound signals.

In cases of floods, tornadoes, or other sources of sudden public peril, sound signals seem to be by far the most rapid means of conveying a general warning.

In this connection it is due to Mr. Augustus Watson, of Washington, D. C., to say that if not the first proposer of this method of signaling, he has certainly been the most persistent in urging it. He began to publish articles on the subject as long ago as 1867; and in 1863, two years before the establishment of the weather bureau, he proposed it to Congress. Since that time Mr. Watson has made many endeavors to have the plan tried by the Signal Service, but without success.

It is a question whether the Signal Service would be able, if willing, to undertake so vast a service as Mr. Watson's, adequately carried out, would create.

The tobacco farmers seem to be pursuing the more practical course. If the plan works well in their case, it will be taken up by other communities for other purposes.

The minute and special distribution and application of meteorological information for local benefit will probably have to be thus undertaken everywhere by the people themselves. The cost of local experiments will not be great, and the system, if found useful, will naturally increase in scope and efficiency until the whole country is covered with its ramifications.

It is possible that something cheaper and more readily handled than canon might be devised for signaling by sound, a species of gigantic fire-cracker, for example, or the sagacity of the bloodhounds on the trail of the fugitive Eliza.

Whenever an entreatment, no matter what character, is given at Library Hall, there seem to be three distinct classes represented in the audience: first, those who go to hear and appreciate the entertainment; second, those who go to be seen, heard and admired, and third, those who go because other people go.

The first class nothing can be said except that they ought to be allowed to accomplish what they came for. The second class is always present and has become to be looked upon as a necessary evil. But the third class, with this, does not care to witness an entertainment and only goes to the Hall because there is a light in it and other people are going, the least such a one can do is to keep quiet and not disturb others who go for the legitimate purpose of enjoying the entertainment. If this class of people cannot stay it would be advisable for them to take a dose of laudanum before coming, so as to keep their nerves in a state of rest until the performance is over. Tuesday night last was no exception to the general rule, and all three classes were represented in the audience, although, fortunately, the latter class were in the minority.

ADDRESSES BY MR. S. W. CLARK.

Mr. S. W. Clark, Secretary of the State Sunday-school Association, visited Bloomfield last Sunday and delivered an address at Berkeley, Union Sunday-school in the afternoon and also addressed the Brookdale Sunday-school in the evening at the anniversary exercises.

Mr. Clark has an aptness for gaining the attention and interest of his hearers, and his blackboard talk, as they are termed, always prove to be instructive and of great interest. At Berkeley the subject of his remarks was "Even a Child is Known by His Doings." The purport of the address was that right living

EVENTS OF THE WEEK PAST

MR. PARSONS RE-NOMINATED.

THE ASSEMBLY CONVENTION ALSO PASSES A RESOLUTION REQUESTING HIM TO VOTE AGAINST THE DIVISION OF THE COUNTY.

THE REPUBLICAN CONVENTION for this District was held yesterday afternoon in Morris's Building, Montclair. Morris B. Lindsey, of Caldwell, was chosen as chairman and Philip Doremus, of Montclair, acted as secretary.

Gen. F. H. Harris, who was chairman of the Montclair delegation, stated that before the nomination should proceed with the nomination of a member who had created considerable interest among the people of this district. There had originated a project for the division of the County. He thought it inexpedient, and it was his opinion that a great majority of the people from this district are opposed to the projected division; and as Mr. Parsons was not disposed to present in the legislature anything not favored by the people, Gen. Harris thought proper to offer the following as a resolution:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, it is inexpedient to divide the County of Essex at this time. We therefore recommend to the Member of Assembly from this district that he should not favor such division, as it is not in the interest of the majority of the people of this district to have such division.

The resolution was voted.

MISS H. A. SHIBLEY.

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